SURVIVAL

Danger

26

...
THE VILLAGE'S GOD THEN CURSED IT...!
DIGGING THIS HOLE CAUSED THE SHRINE TO SINK... IT MADE THE VILLAGERS MAD...
WH... WHY?! WHY WAS DAD DIGGING A HOLE HERE?!
WHAT ON EARTH WAS THE POINT OF IT...?!
WH... WHAT'S THE MEANING OF IT...?!
EH?! TO TRY AND SAVE GOD...?!
B... BUT HE TOLD ME HE WAS DIGGING IT TO TRY AND SAVE GOD!
?
TO SAVE GOD...

ANYTHING ELSE...?
DIDN'T MY DAD SAY ANYTHING ELSE?!
HOW WAS IT GONNA SAVE GOD?!
LIKE WHY HE HAD TO DIG IT?!

HE DUG THIS HOLE...?!

WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN TO GOD?!
IF... IF HE DIDN'T DIG IT...
HUUH

...
HMMM

GOD AND THE VILLAGE?!

HE SAID WE SHOULD ONLY DIG HERE... IN ORDER TO SAVE GOD AND THE VILLAGE!
MM!

WELL WHY DIG A HOLE BELOW THE SHRINE THEN?!

?
...

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN...?
YOU REALLY DUG FAR BELOW THE SHRINE...

?
W... WHY DID YOU STOP MID WAY THEN?!

...

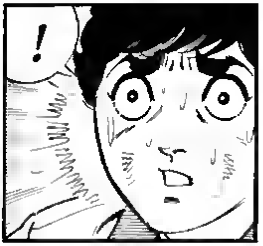
HE DID E EVEN IF THEY DID TRY TO GET IN THE WAY. HE DUG... AND DUG...
YOU DIDN'T DIG THIS TO THE END DID YOU...? THE VILLAGERS WOULD'VE OBJECTED...
I KEPT ON DIGGING TOO!

?
EH?!
THIS WAY...

THAT'S IT...!

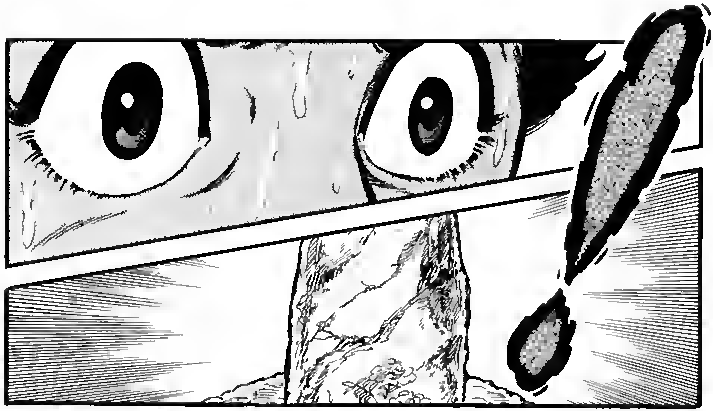
HUH?

IT'S HIS GRAVE...
M, MM...
A... A GRAVE...?!


!

HE DIED WHILE DIGGING THE HOLE...
THAT'S HIS GRAVE...

EH?!



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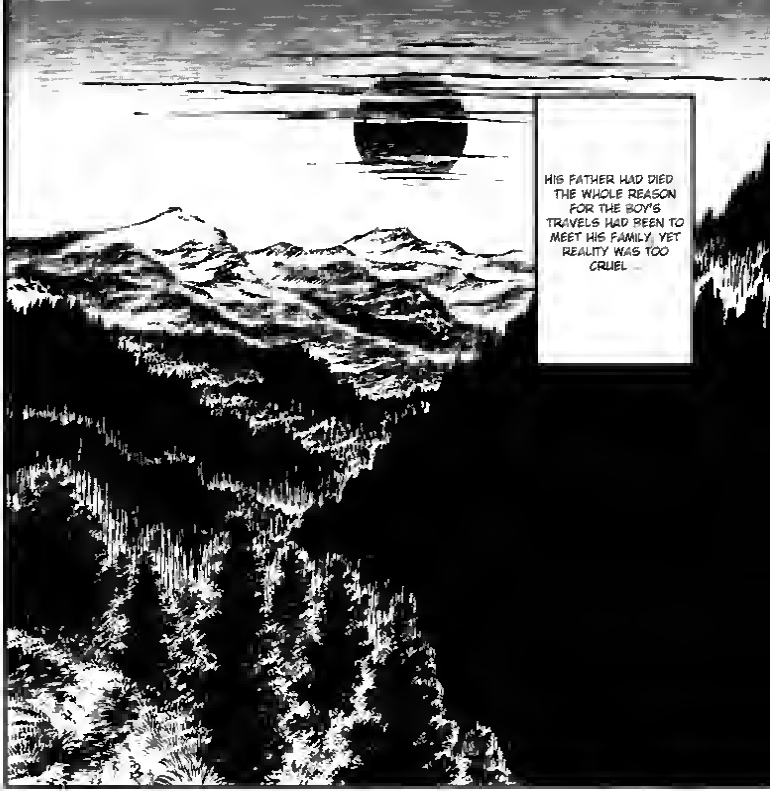
ヨロ…

B... BUT H... HE, HE HAD...
I DUG! I DUG! AND I FINALLY GOT HIM OUT BUT...
TH... THE HOLE COLLAPSED... DIRT FELL DOWN... I WAS BURIED TOO! I CRAWLED OUT... HE WAS BURIED, SO I DUG!
H... HE'D SWALLOWED SO MUCH SOIL... AND DIED, HE DIEEED!
HE'D DIIIED!

IT CAN'T BEEEE!
NO WAY, NO WAAAY!
HE CAN'T HAVE DIIIED! DAD CAN'T HAVE DIIIED!

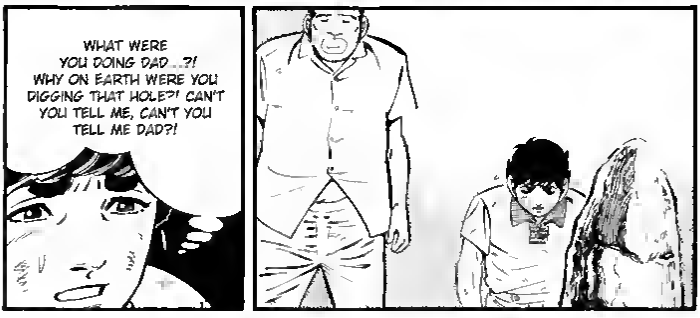
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! AAAAARGH!
THERE'S NO WAY, NO WAY, NO WAY DAD COULD'VE DIED!
AAAAAH!
DAD, DAAAD...!
...
TAKE IT
TAKE IT
!


HIS FATHER HAD DIED
THE WHOLE REASON
FOR THE BOY'S
TRAVELS HAD BEEN TO
MEET HIS FAMILY, YET
REALITY WAS TOO
CRUEL...

YOU THERE...?
IT'S ME...
...
Sooo
EAT...
SOME FOOD...

THE FOOD... EAT IT...
I... I CAN'T TALK ABOUT THAT!
W... WELL...
WHERE ARE MY MUM AND SIS TSUNE-SAN...?
SO THEN...
UUH...
WEREN'T YOU MY DAD'S FRIEND?! AREN'T I HIS SON?!
WHY?! WHY CAN'T YOU TALK ABOUT IT?!

UUUH...
YOU KNOW RIGHT?! YOU KNOW RIGHT, TSUNE-SAN?!
SO WHY CAN'T YOU TELL ME?!
...
I CAAAN'T!
I .. I CAN'T TELL YOU!
WHY ARE THINGS LIKE THIS?!
WHY?! WHY THOUGH?!
カ!!!
カ!!


WHAT WERE YOU DOING DAD...?! WHY ON EARTH WERE YOU DIGGING THAT HOLE?! CAN'T YOU TELL ME, CAN'T YOU TELL ME DAD?!

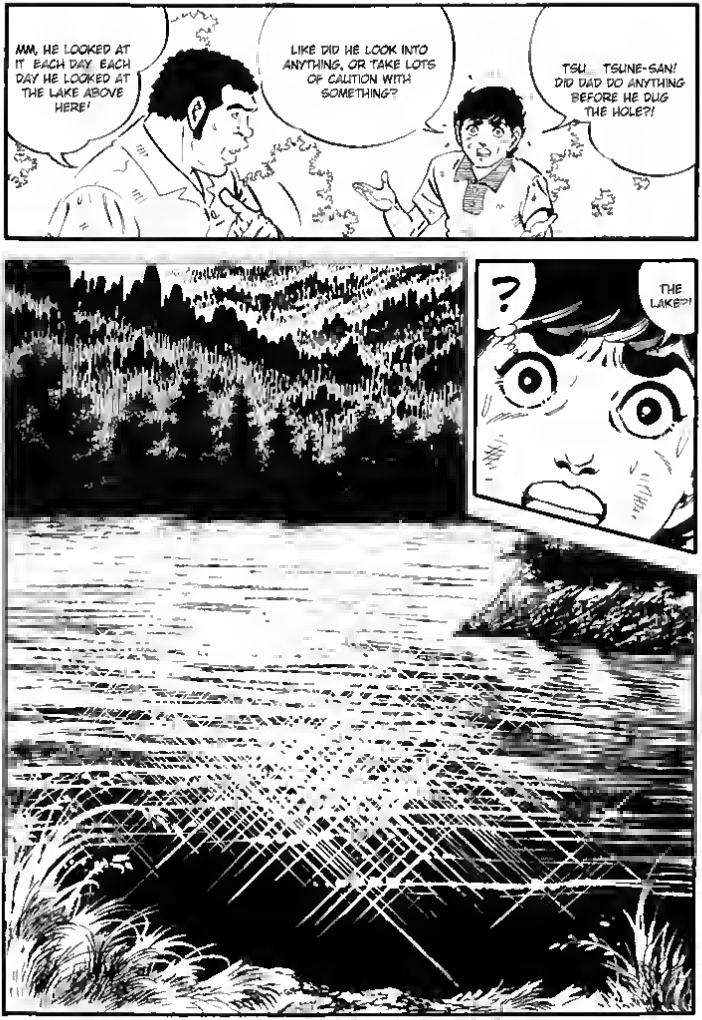
DAD...

I... I WAS THE REASON HE DIED!
I... IT WAS MY FAULT!
JUST WHAT HAD HIS FATHER BEEN DOING... THE BOY FELT PAIN IN HIS CHEST AS HE THOUGHT WITH REGRET ABOUT WHAT HIS FATHER HAD FALLEN TRYING TO DO.
W... WHEN THE EARTH FILLED IN H... HE PUSHED ME AWAY TO SAFETY!
EH?!

TH... THEN HE DIED!
IF IT WEREN'T FOR HIM, I WOULD'VE DIED TOO!
...

...
THAT HE DIIIED!
I... IT WAS MY FAULT THAT HE DIIED!
B... BUT HE WAS DEEEAD!
I... I CRAWLED OUT HE'D BEEN BURIED SO I DUG AND DUG!
HE WAS DEEEAD!
TSU... TSUNE-SAN...
AAARGH!
H... HE WAS A GOOD PERSON!
I CAN SEE WHY HE LIKED YOU...
YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON TSUNE...
H... HE GAVE ME THE WATCH TO SHOW WE WERE FRIENDS!
I... I REALLY LIKED HIM!
JUST GOT UNLUCKY...
IT... IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT... MY FATHER
AAAAAH!

I... I LIKE YOU AS MUCH AS I LIKED HIM!
I LIKE YOU TOO! I LIKE YOU TOO TSUNE-SAN!
TSU... TSUNE-SAN!
I... I LIKE YOU TOO!
I'M GONNA FIND OUT THE TRUTH...
AND CLEAR UP THE DOUBTS ABOUT HIM!
ALRIGHT, I'M GONNA FIND OUT WHAT DAD WAS DOING! JUST WHY HE WAS DIGGING UNDER THE SHRINE


MM, HE LOOKED AT IT EACH DAY, EACH DAY HE LOOKED AT THE LAKE ABOVE HERE!
LIKE DID HE LOOK INTO ANYTHING, OR TAKE LOTS OF CAUTION WITH SOMETHING?
TSU... TSUNE-SAN! DID DAD DO ANYTHING BEFORE HE DUG THE HOLE?!
?
THE LAKE?!